

NOTES FROM CALIFORNIA GIS COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 16, 2005
BAKERSFIELD, CA

1. **Introductions** – John Ellison opened the meeting with a brief roll call of Council members (see attached list of Council attendees)
 - a. **Are all currently identified regional GIS collaboratives still part of the GIS Council?** Yes. A request has been made to add San Francisco to the Council.
2. **Minutes from the February 20, 2004 Council meeting** were adopted on a voice vote. No changes were requested.
3. **Announcements:**
 - a. Erich Seamon (City/Co. of San Francisco) mentioned that he has been participating on the Federal Geographic Data Committee's Future Directions working group – a written report should be coming in June 2005.
4. **Council members' reports on their activities:**
 - a. Richard Mader (Southern CA GIS) described a proposed high resolution, oblique imagery acquisition project for the SCAG region. He also mentioned that SCAG is planning to launch a metadata service soon.
 - b. Carol Ostergren (USGS) provided the Council with a summary of the USGS, National Geospatial Programs Office reorganization. This reorganization is intended to improve the coordination between and effectiveness of *The National Map*, Geospatial One-Stop, and FGDC. This effort will expand USGS mapping Liaisons to more states.
 - c. Joe Concannon (Sacramento Council of Governments) –
 - d. Bob Slobodian (San Joaquin Valley GIS Council) – working on improving regional GIS coordination in the San Joaquin Valley.
 - e. Oscar Jarquin (Caltrans) – Caltrans continues to make progress working *ad hoc* with local and regional governments on transportation datasets. But it would be nice to have a more statewide strategic plan for developing transportation geospatial data.
 - f. Steve DeMello (OES) – the OES information technology and GIS groups are undergoing a re-organization; OES is working with Resources Agency and State CIO on GIS capacity building within OES and the emergency response community; ongoing work with the Dept. of Homeland Security and the State Office of Homeland Security.
 - g. James Christy (US Census Bureau) – Census is still on track to have approximately 500,000 Census-takers enter 2010 Census data in the field using GPS-enabled handhelds; TIGER Accuracy Improvement Project is well underway, with 18 Calif. Counties completed and approved, 20 acquired and under review for

accuracy and the balance of counties in various states of availability.

- h. Pat DeTemple (BAR-GC) – BAR-GC's Homeland Security Data Server Pilot Project is progressing (servers in Berkeley & San Francisco; eventually four will be launched); mtg. with USGS and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency went very well; ABAG has agreed to be the signatory agency on local Data Sharing Agreements.
- i. Robert Beckler (Stanislaus Co.) – there have only been a few meetings of the GIS collaboration group in Stanislaus Co., but many local governments are still interested; the group is looking at a local, high-res. imagery consortium.
- j. Julia Lave-Johnston (Off. Of Planning & Research) – OPR is supportive of the Resources Agency Digital Atlas. The Digital Atlas has Dept. of Defense data on military facilities, training corridors and restricted airspace corridors to help local planners avoid urbanization conflicts with these important military facilities/operations. OPR is hoping to geo-enable a statewide Development Projects database to help local governments with planning and CEQA issues.
- k. Michael Byrne (Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development – DHS) – Dept. of Health Services is working on intra-departmental GIS coordination between programs such as First 5 (Family and Children Commission), Cal. Nutrition, HIV Preparation, Div. of Drinking Water Source Assessment, and Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD). OSHPD is coordinating with the Department of Conservation on hospital earthquake preparedness.
- l. Leo Anguiano (State Water Resources Control Board and CalEPA) – CalEPA is collaborating with the Resources Agency, CERES Program on developing protected Interagency Internet mapping services (the agencies involved include the SWRCB, Dept. of Fish and Game, Dept. of Water Resources, Air Resources Board, and Dept. of Pesticide Regulation). CalEPA is working on consolidating GIS software and data sharing licenses. In addition, the SWRCB is developing ArcGIS applications via terminal servers.
- m. Siran Erysian (US Bureau of Reclamation) – USBR has been supporting the development of the California Watershed Boundaries database. USBR is also collaborating with DWR and local water districts to improve/update water district boundaries across California.

5. State CIO Announcements – John Ellison summarized the sections of the California Information Technology Strategic Plan (http://cio.ca.gov/PDFs/ITStrategicPlan_111704.pdf) that pertain to creation of a new Technology Services Department and the appointment

of a Geospatial Information Officer. The CIO, working with OES and Resources Agency, submitted a Homeland Security GIS pilot project proposal to the State Office of Homeland Security for federal DHS funding. If funded, this pilot project would build a statewide geospatial data server for access by State, local, and regional emergency services agencies/first responders, and build on work done by NGA and BAR-GC through their Project Homeland.

John reviewed the Resources Agency Handout on CERES-related activities. John also mentioned that a request was received by the Attorney General's office for a Legal Opinion on parcel data/digital land records and access to these datasets through the California Public Records Act. The AG's office has indicated they expect to render a written opinion sometime in July 2005.

- 6. Election of a California GIS Council regional GIS councils' Co-Chair** – this issue was deferred until basic governance issues could be resolved (see action item below regarding formation of Council Governance Work Group). There was a call for hands from representatives of all of the regional GIS collaboratives. Representatives from the following regional GIS collaboratives were in attendance:

Channel Islands Regional GIS Collaborative
Southeastern California GIS Council
Eastern Sierra Land Information Network
San Diego Regional GIS Council
Southern California GIS
San Joaquin Valley Regional GIS Council
Sacramento Council of Governments
Far North Regional GIS Council
Stanislaus Co. Regional GIS Collaborative
Bay Area Regional GIS Council
Central Coast Joint Data Committee(?)

John Ellison and Craig Gooch (CGIA) reminded the Council that CGIA has prepared a Regional GIS Collaboratives Profile document. Please contact Craig Gooch, CGIA President, if your regional GIS collaborative has not prepared a profile and would like to, or if you would like to update your existing profile.

- 7. Council Action Items (see briefing papers):**
- a. Should the Council form a Governance Work group to review Council governance and make recommendations for improvement?
Action: Approved without opposition
Volunteers for work group were:

Bob Slobodian (Cal State Fresno University)
Patrick Parsons (Dept of Water Resources)
Karen Beardsley (UC Davis, ICE)
Michael Byrne (Office of Statewide Health Planning & Devel)
Pat DeTemple (BAR-GC/City of Berkeley)
Erich Seamons (City of San Francisco)
Carol Ostergren (USGS)
Huasha Liu (So Cal Council of Governments)

- b. Should the Council use the California Geographic Information Association (CGIA) act as an outreach arm of the Council? Action: Approved without opposition
- c. Should the Council partner with the CGIA and request that it help with obtaining and administering grants in support of Council activities and initiatives? Action: Approved without opposition
- d. Should the Council appoint a member of the Council to represent the Council at CGIA meetings? Action: Approved without opposition
- e. Should the Council commit to meet at least every six months? Action: Approved without opposition

8. State Digital Land Records Information Study

(http://gis.ca.gov/council/docs/DLRI_Report_Final.pdf) - Craig Gooch (Psomas), consultant to the California Mapping Coordinating Committee (via the lead of the California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection), discussed the Digital Land Records Information (DLRI) Study that was prepared for the State looking at the need for/use of DLRI in State government, availability of parcel data in California, and some potential options for encouraging the development of and getting access to DLRI.

Joe Concannon (SACOG) mentioned that it would be helpful for his agencies to hear the State say, 'we need this parcel data because . . . we need this information for emergency services, or homeland security, or help get transportation funding, etc.' Huasha Liu (SCAG) concurred with Joe's comment.

Steve DeMello (OES) expressed the importance of DLRI and the need to use transportation information as a catalyst for acquiring funding to develop access to statewide DLRI. DLRI needs to be a budget priority and we need to go after homeland security funding.

Proposed Action: **Form DLRI working group.** Action: Passed without opposition. The following people have volunteered to participate on this working group:

Oscar Jarquin (CalTrans)

Craig Gooch (PSOMAS)
Ray McDowell (Resources Agency)
Robin Marose (Cal Dept of Forestry & Fire Protection)
Bruce Joffe (GIS Consultant)
Dennis Wuthrich (Farallon Geographics, Inc.)
Malcolm Adkins (Michael Baker Jr., Inc.)
Joe Concannon (SACOG)

The Council also recommended that CGIA and the California Mapping Coordinating Comm. participate on the DLRI working group, the Work Group focus on financing strategies and CGIA should help with outreach to local and regional government.

9. National Agricultural Imagery Program – Collaborative Imagery Procurement for California – Ray McDowell (Resources Agency, CERES Program) provided a briefing on the ongoing effort to build a partnership of State and federal agencies to fund the acquisition of statewide one-meter resolution, color digital orthophotos (public domain) in Summer 2005. The U.S. Dept. of Agricultural (Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service) approached California federal, State and local agencies last Fall about partnering on a statewide imagery acquisition this summer. USDA has proposed a two-thirds cost share for the more than \$2.2 million estimated acquisition cost. Several State and federal agencies have committed to provide the approximate \$760,000 one-third share. But the multiple, multi-party contracting processes are proving to be a challenge. We should know by the end of March 2005 whether the project is going to succeed.